

Application N . 10/031,752  
Response filed December 17, 2003  
Reply to Office Action dated September 17, 2003

### **Amendments to the Specification**

On page 1 of the specification, after the title and prior to the first paragraph entitled "Technical Field", please insert the following paragraph:

### **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

The present application claims the benefit of priority to United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/145,314 filed July 23, 1999 and to International Patent Application No. PCT/US00/20013 filed July 21, 2000.

Following the last claim on the last page of the specification, please insert a new page containing the following paragraph:

### **ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention provides methods for activating the immune systems of newborn animals and methods for enhancing the production performance of the animals. More particularly, the methods of the present invention involve the administration of compositions comprising mycobacterial cell wall extract, most preferably cell wall extracts of *Mycobacterium phlei*.